

Current Status of All Claims in the Present Application:

1-44. (Canceled)

45. (Currently Amended) An exposure apparatus for transferring an image onto a device, the exposure apparatus comprising:

a stage ~~that retains the device, the stage~~ including a device table that retains the device, a stage frame, and a table mover assembly that moves the device table relative to the stage frame;

a stage mover assembly for moving the stage; and

a chamber assembly that encircles the device and provides a device chamber around the device, the chamber assembly including a fixed section, a moving section that moves relative to the fixed section and substantially concurrently with the stage, a seal assembly that seals an intersection between the fixed section and the moving section during movement of the moving section, and a table seal that seals the moving section to the device table, the table seal isolating contaminants from the table mover assembly and inhibiting the contaminants from the table mover assembly from circulating through the device chamber.

46. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 45 wherein the table seal includes bellows that allow for motion to the device table relative to the moving section.

47. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 45 wherein a portion of the stage mover assembly is positioned outside the device chamber.

48. (Previously Presented) A device manufactured with the exposure apparatus according to claim 45.

49. (Previously Presented) A wafer on which an image has been formed by the exposure apparatus of claim 45.

50. (Currently Amended) An exposure apparatus for transferring an image onto a device, the exposure apparatus comprising:

a stage that retains the device; and

a stage base that guides and supports the stage; and

a chamber assembly that encircles the device and provides a device chamber around the device, the chamber assembly including (i) a fixed section that includes a top wall and four side walls, (ii) a moving section that moves relative to the fixed section, the moving section including a bottom wall, the moving section moving with the stage, and (iii) a seal assembly that seals an intersection between the fixed section and the moving section during movement of the moving section.

51. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 50 wherein the top wall, the side walls and the bottom wall cooperate to define a substantially rectangular shaped housing.

52. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 51 wherein the seal assembly seals a bottom edge of the side walls to a top surface of the bottom wall.

53. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 50 further comprising a stage mover assembly for moving the stage, wherein a portion of the stage mover assembly is positioned outside the device chamber.

54. (Previously Presented) A device manufactured with the exposure apparatus according to claim 50.

55. (Previously Presented) A wafer on which an image has been formed by the exposure apparatus of claim 50.

56. (Currently Amended) An exposure apparatus for transferring an image onto a device, the exposure apparatus comprising:

a stage that retains the device; and

a chamber assembly that encircles the device and provides a device chamber around the device, the chamber assembly including a fixed section, a moving section that moves relative to the fixed section, at least a portion of the moving section being supported by the stage, and a seal assembly that seals an intersection between the fixed section and the moving section during movement of the moving section, the seal assembly including a fluid bearing; and

a stage base that guides and supports the stage, the stage base being positioned outside the chamber assembly.

57. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 56 further comprising a stage mover assembly for moving the stage, wherein a portion of the stage mover assembly is positioned outside the device chamber.

58. (Previously Presented) A device manufactured with the exposure apparatus according to claim 56.

59. (Previously Presented) A wafer on which an image has been formed by the exposure apparatus of claim 56.

60. (Currently Amended) An exposure apparatus for transferring an image onto a device, the exposure apparatus comprising:

a stage that retains the device;

a stage base that guides and supports the stage;

a stage mover assembly that moves the stage; and

a chamber assembly that encircles the device and provides a device chamber around the device, the chamber assembly including (i) a fixed section that includes a top wall and four side walls, (ii) a moving section that moves substantially concurrently with the stage, the moving section including a bottom wall, the moving section moving with the stage relative to the stage base, and (iii) a seal assembly that seals an intersection between the fixed section and the moving section during movement of the moving section.

61. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 60 wherein the top wall, the side walls and the bottom wall cooperate to define a substantially rectangular shaped housing.

62. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 60 wherein the seal assembly seals a bottom edge of the side walls to a top surface of the bottom wall.

63. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 60 wherein a portion of the stage mover assembly is positioned outside the device chamber.

64. (Previously Presented) A device manufactured with the exposure apparatus according to claim 60.

65. (Previously Presented) A wafer on which an image has been formed by the exposure apparatus of claim 60.

66. (Currently Amended) An exposure apparatus for transferring an image onto a device, the exposure apparatus comprising:

a stage ~~that retains the device, the stage~~ including a device table that retains the device, a stage frame, and a table mover assembly that moves the device table relative to the stage frame;

a stage mover assembly that moves the stage; and

a chamber assembly that encircles the device and provides a device chamber around the device, the chamber assembly including a moving section that moves substantially concurrently with the stage and a table seal that seals the moving section to the device table and allows for motion to the device table relative to the moving section, the table seal isolating contaminants from the table mover assembly and inhibiting the contaminants from the table mover assembly from circulating through the device chamber.

67. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 66 wherein the chamber assembly includes a fixed section and a seal assembly that seals an intersection between the fixed section and the moving section during movement of the moving section.

68. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 66 wherein a portion of the stage mover assembly is positioned outside the device chamber.

69. (Previously Presented) A device manufactured with the exposure apparatus according to claim 66.

70. (Previously Presented) A wafer on which an image has been formed by the exposure apparatus of claim 66.

71-93. (Canceled)

94. (Currently Amended) An exposure apparatus for transferring an image onto a device, the exposure apparatus comprising:

a stage that retains the device; and

a stage base that guides and supports the stage; and

a chamber assembly that encircles the device and provides a device chamber around the device, the chamber assembly including a fixed section and a moving section that moves relative to the fixed section, the moving section including at least one wall that defines at least a portion of the device chamber, wherein the stage supports at least a portion of the moving section.

95. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 94 wherein the fixed section includes at least one wall that defines at least a portion of the device chamber.

96. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 95 wherein the fixed section includes a top wall and four side walls and the moving section includes a bottom wall.

97. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 96 wherein the top wall, the side walls and the bottom wall cooperate to define a substantially rectangular shaped housing.

98. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 96 further comprising a seal assembly that seals an intersection between the fixed section and the moving section during movement of the moving section.

99. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 98 wherein the seal assembly seals a bottom edge of the side walls to a top surface of the bottom wall.

100. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 98 wherein the seal assembly includes a fluid bearing.

101. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 94 further comprising a stage mover assembly for moving the stage.

102. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 101 wherein the moving section moves substantially concurrently with the stage.

103. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 101 wherein the moving section is secured to the stage.

104. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 101 wherein a portion of the stage mover assembly is positioned outside the device chamber.

105. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 101 wherein the stage mover assembly is entirely positioned outside the device chamber.

106. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 94 wherein the stage includes a device table and the chamber assembly includes a table seal that seals the moving section to the device table.

107. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 106 wherein the table seal allows for motion to the device table relative to the moving section.

108. (Previously Presented) A device manufactured with the exposure apparatus according to claim 94.

109. (Previously Presented) A wafer on which an image has been formed by the exposure apparatus of claim 94.

110. (Currently Amended) An exposure apparatus for transferring an image onto a device, the exposure apparatus comprising:

~~a stage that retains the device, the stage~~ including a device table that retains the device, a stage frame, and a table mover assembly that moves the device table relative to the stage frame; and

a chamber assembly that encircl s th device and provides a device chamber around the device, the chamber assembly including a moving section and a table seal that seals the moving section to the device table, the table seal isolating contaminants from the table mover assembly and inhibiting the contaminants from the table mover assembly from circulating through the device chamber.

111. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 110 wherein the table seal allows for motion to the device table relative to the moving section.

112. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 110 further comprising a stage mover assembly for moving the stage.

113. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 112 wherein the moving section moves substantially concurrently with the stage.

114. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 112 wherein the moving section is secured to the stage.

115. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 112 wherein a portion of the stage mover assembly is positioned outside the device chamber.

116. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 112 wherein the stage mover assembly is entirely positioned outside the device chamber.

117. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 110 wherein the chamber assembly further includes a fixed section and a seal assembly, wherein the moving section moves relative to the fixed section, the seal assembly sealing an intersection between the fixed section and the moving section during movement of the moving section.

118. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 117 wherein the fixed section includes a fixed wall and the moving section includes a moving wall.

119. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 118 wherein the fixed section and the moving section cooperate to define a substantially rectangular shaped housing.

120. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 118 wherein the seal assembly seals the fixed wall to the moving wall.

121. (Previously Presented) The exposure apparatus of claim 117 wherein the seal assembly includes a fluid bearing.

122. (Previously Presented) A device manufactured with the exposure apparatus according to claim 110.

123. (Previously Presented) A wafer on which an image has been formed by the exposure apparatus of claim 110.

124-135.(Canceled)

136. (New) An exposure apparatus for transferring an image onto a device, the exposure apparatus comprising:

- a stage that retains the device;
- a stage mover assembly that moves the stage and the device;
- a chamber assembly that encircles the device and provides a device chamber around the device, the chamber assembly including a fixed section;
- a seal assembly that seals an intersection between the fixed section and the stage during movement of the stage relative to the fixed section; and

a stag base that guides and supports the stage, the stage base being positioned outside the device chamber.

137. (New) The exposure apparatus of claim 136 wherein the seal assembly includes a fluid bearing that maintains the fixed section spaced apart from the stage.

138. (New) The exposure apparatus of claim 136 wherein the stage assembly includes a moving section that is positioned adjacent to the fixed section.

139. (New) The exposure apparatus of claim 138 wherein the stage includes a device table that retains the device and the chamber assembly includes a table seal that seals the moving section to the device table.

140. (New) The exposure apparatus of claim 139 wherein the table seal allows for motion to the device table relative to the moving section.

141. (New) The exposure apparatus of claim 139 wherein the stage mover assembly moves the device table relative to the moving section and wherein the stage mover assembly is entirely positioned outside the device chamber.

142. (New) The exposure apparatus of claim 136 wherein the seal assembly creates a vacuum between the fixed section and the stage.